

chain (Bence Jones) protein, a host cell comprising the nucleic acid of the invention and method of using cell for in vitro screening;

Group V: Claims 1-8, 15, 18, 19-20, 26-27, 31-40, drawn to a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleic acid sequence further comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a reporter protein that is enzymatic molecule is feline urinary carboxylase, a host cell comprising the nucleic acid of the invention and method of using cell for in vitro screening;

Group VI: Claims 21-25, 31-33, drawn to a transgenic non-human animal wherein the cells of the non-human animal express the protein or product encoded by the nucleic acid sequence of the invention, and method of using cell for in vitro screening.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group II corresponding to Claims 1-8, 11-15, 19-20, 26-27 and 31-40 with traverse. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider further search and examination of Claims 21-25 as they relate to the election of Group II, and in particular, transgenic non-human animals and human beta choriogonadotrophin (hCG). Applicants respectfully submit that examination of these additional claims would not present an undue burden upon the Examiner, and examination of these additional claims would facilitate efficient prosecution of the present application.


Moreover, it can be reasonably concluded that Claims 1-8, 11-15, 19-20, 26-27 and 31-40 and Claims 21-25 do form a single general inventive concept, on the basis that all of these claims relate to hCG. Therefore, the claims meet the requirement for unity of invention as set forth in accordance with PCT Rules 13.1 and 13.2, and they should all be searched and examined together. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that these claims be re-evaluated and that the present groupings be withdrawn so that Claims 1-8, 11-15, 19-20, 26-27 and 31-40 and Claims 21-25 can be searched and examined together.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for substantive examination, which action is requested.

In re: Clark et al.
Application No.: 10/572,975
Filed: May 10, 2007
Page 3

If any extension of time for the accompanying response or submission is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee, which may be required, or credit any refund, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,

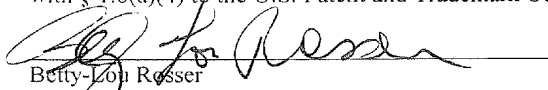


Shawna Cannon Lemon
Registration No. 53,888

USPTO Customer No. 20792
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.
P. O. Box 37428
Raleigh, NC 27627
Telephone: (919) 854-1400
Facsimile: (919) 854-1401

CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 23, 2009.



Betty-Lou Rosser
Date of Signature: March 23, 2009